

PLO sets new deadline for PNC

TUNIS (R) — The end of November has been set as the new deadline for holding the much-postponed 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian news agency Wafa said here Sunday. The decision was taken at a three-day meeting here chaired by Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and attended by PLO leaders. PNC members and Palestinian trade unions, the agency said. The meeting which ended Sunday was devoted primarily, it added, to "the importance and necessity of setting a deadline no later than the end of November for holding the Palestine National Council." A committee was entrusted with "choosing the date and place for the PNC meeting after completing consultations and contacts at Palestinian and Arab levels," the agency said, adding that a communiqué drafted at Sunday's meeting would be issued shortly.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز: صحيفة سياسية عربية مستقلة

Volume 9 Number 2692

AMMAN, MONDAY OCTOBER 15, 1984, MUHARRAM 20, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King congratulates S. Yemeni leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes Sunday to President Ali Nasser Muhammad of South Yemen congratulating the South Yemeni leader in the King's own name and on behalf of the people and government of Jordan on the occasion of the South Yemeni National Day. The King also wished President Nasser Muhammad continued success to achieve the aspirations of the South Yemeni people.

GCC summit begins Nov. 27

KUWAIT (R) — The six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has postponed the start of its summit conference next month by one day to Nov. 27. It was officially announced Sunday. Abdul Aziz Al Obeidi, secretary-general for cabinet affairs, said after a weekly meeting of the Kuwaiti cabinet that the council foreign ministers will meet on Nov. 20 to prepare an agenda for the three-day summit.

Mirage deliveries for India delayed

NEW DELHI (AP) — The first of the 40 Mirage 2000 fighters that India contracted to buy from France will not be delivered on schedule this month because of avionics problems and delay in mounting sophisticated air-to-air missiles, the United News of India (UPI) reported Sunday. The news agency said the first four of the delay-winged war jets would now be flown to India early next year. The manufacturers, Marcel Dassault, admitted the Indian government's problems in integrating some avionics equipment asked for by the Indian air force with the Mirage 2000. UPI said.

Kohl urges Zia to sign nuclear treaty

ISLAMABAD (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Sunday his country could not help Pakistan develop atomic energy as long as it refuses to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Dr. Kohl, on overnight stop after a six-day visit to China, told a press conference he and President Mohammad Zia ul Haq discussed nuclear cooperation during three hours of talks Saturday night and Sunday morning. But he said Islamabad's failure to sign the NPT blocked Bonn from aiding its nuclear programme, which Islamabad says is peaceful but which critics say is aimed at producing atomic weapons.

Two rebels killed in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Turkish security forces said Sunday they had killed two separatist guerrillas, a phrase normally used to refer to Kurdish rebels. A statement by martial law authorities reported by the semi-official Anatolian news agency said the guerrillas were in a house which was surrounded by security forces.

Al Zamalek beats Al Jazira 5-2

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Zamalek, the Egyptian soccer club beat Al Jazira, the Jordanian club 5-2, in a friendly match at Al Hussein Sports City Stadium Sunday.

INSIDE

- Gas tanker threatens to explode in Gulf, page 2
- Noor lays foundation stone for SOS village, page 3
- U.S. election — turning point in 'ideological struggle', page 4
- Walking robots take their first steps, page 5
- Sweden's Jarryd claims Australian title, page 6
- S. Arabian delays hurt contractors, page 7
- Romanov calls for U.S.-Soviet dialogue on 'basic problems', page 8

Hernu leaves after talks on arms sales

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Sunday received at Al Nadwa Palace French Defence Minister Charles Hernu and Mrs. Hernu who arrived here Saturday on a 24-hour visit to Jordan.

During the two-hour meeting, the King discussed with Mr. Hernu possible French arms sales to Jordan to support the Kingdom's defences and preserve its sovereignty after the U.S. failure earlier this year to provide the Kingdom with its military needs, well-informed sources told the Jordan Times.

The meeting, which included a working lunch hosted by the King and Queen, was attended by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Army Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb, and their wives, members of an official delegation accompanying Mr. Hernu and French Ambassador to Jordan Jacques Alain de Sedouy, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The French defence minister was later received by Gen. Sharif Zaid who discussed with him "matters of mutual interest," Petra said. The meeting was attended by Lt. Gen. Abu Taleb and Mr. de Sedouy.

Mr. Hernu left Amman, reportedly for Cyprus, after the meeting, but there was no immediate confirmation of his destination.

Mr. Hernu's visit — the second in one month — "comes to continue talks with Jordanian officials on possibilities to sell the Kingdom French-manufactured weapons," the French ambassador told the Jordan Times in an interview last week.

During the previous visit, Mr. Hernu said that France was willing to provide Jordan with its arms requirements. He said "it is a political will to help Jordan preserve its independence and security."

"I don't know if we will be able to provide all of Jordan's military needs but we will do our best," the French minister said on his visit last month before cutting short his stay here to fly to Ndjamena when France and Libya decided to withdraw their troops from Chad.

Following the French minister's talks here, sources close to Mr. Hernu said no agreement has yet been reached to provide the Kingdom with French arms. "The problem of defining the priorities of Jordan's military needs still remains as well as the financing of possible arms sales," one source, who asked not to be identified, told the Jordan Times.

However, the source said, negotiations are underway in coordination with the joint Jordanian-French military committee which was set up last month to study the priorities of Jordan's requirements. The source denied that an agreement has been signed to sell the Kingdom 13 French-manufactured Mirage fighter jets.

Well-placed Jordanian officials told the Jordan Times that Jordan has not sought to buy French "Mistral" anti-aircraft missiles as these missiles would not be available for export before 1986. The officials said the Kingdom is seeking to obtain anti-aircraft missiles from other countries as air defences are considered the top priority in Jordan's defence needs after the U.S. decided not to provide the Kingdom with the American Stinger anti-aircraft missiles earlier this year.

Meanwhile, the Jordan Times has learned that British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine is scheduled to arrive here on Oct. 22 heading a 10-member military delegation on a five-day visit to discuss possible arms sales to Jordan.

Earlier, refusing to comment on Mr. Heseltine's arrival date, a British embassy official here told the Jordan Times Sunday that Mr. Heseltine will be discussing the sale of "a variety of military equipment" to Jordan but did not specify what kind.

However, the official said that the British-manufactured "Javelin" anti-aircraft missiles were similar to the Stinger missiles which Jordan sought from the U.S. Asked whether Britain would sell the Kingdom Javelin missiles he said "could be" but did not elaborate.

Jordan, in its search for alternative arms sources after the U.S. refusal to provide the Kingdom with needed defence arms, has approached European and other countries, including the Soviet Union, China, Spain, Austria, Ireland besides France and Britain.

No final results on any Jordanian purchase of arms have apparently surfaced yet. However, observers agree that with high-level contacts with East as well as West European nations, the Kingdom seems determined to satisfy its defensive needs as soon as possible.

PLO group claims attack on Israelis

DAMASCUS (AP) — A Palestinian commando group has claimed responsibility for an attack Saturday on Israeli army troops in southern Lebanon which killed at least one Israeli soldier.

The Palestine Popular Struggle Front (PPSF) said in a communiqué issued here late Saturday that its fighters had attacked an Israeli army unit near Mashgara, which is close to Israel's Awali River front line and east of the Bateer crossing from north to South Lebanon.

The communiqué said its fighters used "heavy machine guns, hand grenades and rocket-propelled grenades" in the attack and claimed "killing and wounding tens of enemy elements." All of the Palestinian fighters returned safely to their base after an eight-hour Israeli siege, the communiqué said.

Cairo says progress made towards accord on Lebanon pullout

CAIRO (R) — A senior Egyptian official Sunday reported significant progress towards agreement on a pullout of Israeli troops from occupied southern Lebanon.

Egyptian presidential adviser Osama Al Baz, speaking to reporters, was referring to recent talks involving the U.S., Israel, Syria and Lebanon. The progress of the talks was reviewed at a meeting here Sunday between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Dr. Baz said.

He told reporters an agreement "could be implemented in a short period of time" and that Israel might leave Lebanon within six months after such an agreement. Mr. Weinberger met Mr. Mubarak and other Egyptian officials on the first day of a visit to discuss bilateral relations between the two countries.

Dr. Baz said the talks covered a wide range of issues but centred on the possible Israeli withdrawal. "The talks that were held on this matter with the help of the United States have made significant progress in the past few days," he said.

"The remaining points are, in my opinion, surmountable. The parties are now working on certain details and we hope that they will be able to reach agreement on a formula that could be implemented in a short period of time."

He declined to pinpoint remaining barriers to an agreement or to say when Israel might leave the area which it occupied in its 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Sudden Israeli withdrawal may complicate matters for Lebanese president, page 4

Assad leaves for Moscow today

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad is expected to leave for Moscow Monday on his first publicised visit in two years to the Soviet Union, Syria's main ally and arms supplier, informed Syrian sources said Sunday.

A presidential spokesman, while not commenting on the departure time, said the visit would fall within the framework of consultations and discussions between the two countries.

Mr. Assad last visited Moscow in 1982 for the funeral of the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. Since then, press reports have circulated of further undisclosed visits but these have been neither officially confirmed nor denied.

The presidential spokesman noted Sunday that the forthcoming visit coincided with the fourth anniversary this month of the 20-year Soviet-Syrian treaty of friendship and cooperation.

It also coincides with apparent success in Soviet efforts to improve relations with the Arab World.

Last week, Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh signed a friendship treaty between their two countries. Also this year, Egypt restored diplomatic ties with Moscow after a break of four years and Kuwait contracted a major arms deal.

Diplomatic sources said Mr. Assad's talks with Mr. Chernenko and possibly Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko would likely focus on how best to revitalise a Soviet proposal for an international conference to seek a solution to the Palestinian problem.

The Lebanese situation and the outcome of last week's talks between King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak would also be on the agenda, they said.

Syria has bitterly criticised Jordan's resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt, ostracised by most Arab states after it signed a separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

The sources said the Soviet

Union, content to be a bystander in Lebanon, would like Syria's role there consolidated as part of its desire for its regional ally to achieve strategic parity with Israel.

The sources said they did not know whether arms supplies would be part of the Syrian-Soviet talks.

'No peace without pullout'

Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasm said Sunday there could be no peace in the Middle East unless Israel withdrew from all territories occupied by force.

"There could be no peace... Israel must withdraw from all territories it occupied by force and aggression," he told the opening session of a four-day meeting of Mediterranean Red Cross and Red Crescent societies.

Mr. Kasm did not refer in his speech, carried by the official Syrian news agency, to South Lebanon in particular.

Kohl favours Palestinian homeland

SHARJAH, UAE (AP) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl was quoted as saying here Sunday that the Bonn government was in favour of creating a "national homeland" for the Palestinian people. He told the Emirates News Agency WAM during a brief stopover at Sharjah airport that a solution must be found for the Palestinian problem that would satisfy all parties concerned. "West Germany supports Palestinian demands for a national homeland," WAM quoted Dr. Kohl as saying shortly before boarding the plane to Germany after a one-week tour of China and Pakistan. WAM quoted him as saying that Bonn maintains good relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). He did not elaborate on that point. Responding to a question, Dr. Kohl said the agency that the four-year-old Iran-Iraq war must come to an end.



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday holds talks with French Defence Minister Charles Hernu (to the King's right) at a meeting attended by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat (right), Armed Forces

Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker (left). To Mr. Hernu's right is an interpreter (Petra photo)

Egypt asks U.S. to sell weapons to Jordan

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt asked the United States on Sunday to sell Jordan air defence weapons this year because of opposition by Israel and members of the U.S. Congress, Egyptian sources said.

The Egyptian sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said the request was made during meeting Sunday between U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and senior Egyptian officials, including President Hosni Mubarak.

The sources said Mr. Weinberger refused to commit President Ronald Reagan's administration to supporting the sale of Stinger ground-to-air missiles.

They said Mr. Weinberger also refused to give assurances that the United States would meet Egyptian requests for more advanced weaponry for its own armed forces.

The sources said Egyptian officials were disappointed by Mr. Weinberger's lack of response. There was no comment on the report by U.S. officials travelling with Mr. Weinberger.

Peres says 'illegal' settlements will be torn down

HAMBURG, West Germany (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres was quoted Sunday as saying the Jewish state will "tear down illegal settlements" in the occupied Arab territories.

Mr. Peres was quoted in an interview with the Hamburg-based West German newsweekly Der Spiegel as saying Israel "already thwarted one or two such attempts."

"Illegal settlements will certainly be torn down. There is no doubt about it... I'm speaking about new attempts, that we have hindered, in Nablus, for example," he was quoted as saying.

Upon arrival at Tel Aviv, Mr. Peres said Israel had to devise a plan for withdrawing its troops from Lebanon and not depend too much on the Syrians to provide guarantees.

Lawzi, Fayeze hold talks with East German official

AMMAN (Petra) — Visiting East German Secretary of State for Labour Wolfgang Beyreuther Sunday met with Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and discussed issues of common interest and parliamentary affairs. Mr. Beyreuther, who arrived here on Friday on a five-day visit, is also member of East Germany's national assembly.

Following his meeting with Mr. Lawzi, the East German official called on the speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Akel Al Fayeze, and reviewed bilateral relations with him.

At the meeting, Mr. Fayeze paid tribute to East Germany for its support for Arab causes in general and the Palestinian people's rights in particular.

He said that tension in the Middle East region stems from Israel's intransigence and continued acts of aggression against Arab countries, and its refusal of all international peace resolutions designed to establish a just and comprehensive peace. The Israelis are continuing to build settlements on Arab land and evicting Arab people from their homes and lands in violation of all international laws and principles, Mr. Fayeze said.

Mr. Fayeze also spoke about Jordan's policies and its endeavours to bring about a just and comprehensive peace. He said that the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance agreement and U.S. financial and military support for Israel encourage the Jewish state to pursue its aggressive policies.

Numeiri lauds Jordan's resumption of Egypt ties

CAIRO (Agencies) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri has praised Jordan's decision to resume relations with Egypt and said the move reflected the "wisdom and keenness on safeguarding the strategic interests of the Arab Nation."

Mr. Numeiri, in an interview published in the Al Akhbar newspaper on the eve of his visit to Egypt which began Sunday, also said there was "no alternative to Egypt's leading role in serving the causes and objectives of the Arab Nation."

Mr. Numeiri's visit to Egypt is aimed at further cooperation between the two countries whose joint Nile Valley Parliament begins a new session Monday.

Mr. Numeiri and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who met him at the airport, will jointly

open the session of the assembly, set up under an integration pact signed just two years ago.

The integration agreement aimed at promoting cooperation in all spheres including economic development along the valley of the Nile, on which both depend. Al Akhbar newspaper said in an editorial Sunday it was time for practical integration measures to realise what it called a dream that the peoples of Egypt and Sudan "felt in their hearts since long ago."

Mr. Numeiri and Mr. Mubarak were having talks Sunday which Egyptian officials said would cover the Egyptian leader's recent state visit to Jordan and prospects for a conference of Red Sea states which Sudan hopes to host on the recent mining of the waterway.

See photo on page 2

Ghali urges all Arabs to 'face reality'

BEIRUT (R) — Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs has called on Syria and all Arabs to "face reality" and unite in efforts to find peace with Israel.

"In the absence of an agreed alternative, the Camp David agreements remain the best diplomatic framework for seeking peace," Butros Ghali said in an interview in Cairo with a Beirut weekly magazine, An Nahar Arab and International, to be published Monday.

"Extending Camp David will have to come from a joint effort to replace rather than merely reject it. This joint effort will have to come from all the Arabs and with Israeli participation," Mr. Ghali said.

"This I say to Syria too," he continued, "the time is ripe to face the reality of new conditions which are far removed from out-of-date slogans and over-played hands."

Mr. Ghali said Egypt hoped other Arabs would follow Jordan's example in restoring diplomatic relations with Egypt, and that they "would rise to the challenge presented at an historic crossroads and stop manoeuvring and over-stating their case."

Jordan last month restored diplomatic ties with Egypt broken in 1979 because of the separate peace treaty with Israel.

Mr. Ghali said a peace process based on the starting point of the Camp David agreements with Israel would defend Palestinian rights and seek strategic security for all Arab states.

He repeated Egypt's view that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that Israel should drop its policies in the occupied territories to achieve real peace.

Also back a plan by lawyers to boycott courts on Nov. 17 to step up the campaign for a quick return to democracy.

Meanwhile, former President Abdus Sattar, ousted in a coup in March 1982, said Sunday he had been forced to hand over his power and denied charges that he was unable to run his government.

"I was the country's elected president but it was present military ruler Hossain Mohammad Ershad who deposed me at gunpoint," Mr. Sattar, 75, told the rally of the opposition seven-party alliance.

Egypt, Jordan plan new ferry link

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt's Economy Minister Mustapha Kamel Saïd said Sunday a ferry service between Aqaba and Nuweiba on the Sinai coast would begin in early 1985, the Middle East News Agency said.

It quoted the minister as saying the project was one of several agreed on during Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's recent trip to Jordan to boost economic and commercial ties.

Others include a new dock on the Sinai coast linked to the port of Aqaba, he added.

The minister said Egypt also agreed to boost imports of Jordanian cement, potash and phosphates and increase the number of Egyptian workers in Jordan.

The two countries restored diplomatic ties on Sept. 25 after a five-year break.

Earlier Mr. Saïd was quoted by the local Jordanian press as saying that King Hussein's talks with President Mubarak in Amman were concentrated on ways for launching maximum economic and trade cooperation immediately. He was quoted by Al Ra'i newspaper as saying that the Amman talks will be followed up by Egyptian and Jordanian officials when Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani visits Cairo next week. He said that though official trade links and agreements on economic cooperation exist between the two sides, Arab economic integration requires no documents or official agreements.

Cairo press reports said that new directives by King Hussein and President Mubarak will be issued soon for the formation of the Higher Joint Committee to lay down a strategic joint action in various economic fields. According to the reports the committee will be co-chaired by the prime ministers of Jordan and Egypt and will meet periodically in Amman and Cairo.

The local press Sunday said His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will meet with President Mubarak. Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali and Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazaleh during his visit to Cairo, due to start on Saturday. Prince Hassan will chair a seminar in Cairo on Egyptian-Jordanian scientific cooperation to be attended by senior ministers and scientists from both countries, the reports said.

The Cairo Al Jumbouriah and Al Akhbar newspapers said that Egypt and Jordan will soon increase their trade exchange and launch joint industrial, and agricultural ventures. Jordan, they said, will sell Egypt one million tonnes of cement annually and Egypt will build a factory at Suez, to process Jordanian phosphates.

2 Home - Middle East news

Damaged gas tanker may explode in Gulf

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A tanker loaded with liquid gas, hit in a Gulf air attack on Friday, is still in danger of exploding although fire on board has been extinguished, shipping sources said Sunday.

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A tanker loaded with liquid gas, hit in a Gulf air attack on Friday, is still in danger of exploding although fire on board has been extinguished, shipping sources said Sunday.

The 23,796-ton Gas Fountain, managed by a Greek company, was being towed towards the centre of the waterway by salvage tugs as gas leaked from two holes in the deck.

It was hit by three rockets fired from a fighter plane though by local and foreign shipping sources on the Arab side of the Gulf to have been Iranian.

Tehran Radio, in a brief dispatch Saturday, suggested the ship had been hit by Iraqi planes. But the Iranian official media have not mentioned the incident since and Gulf shipping sources said it looked like a retaliatory Iranian strike for earlier Iraqi attacks.

Tehran Radio said Iranian ships had rescued all 33 crewmen.

The rocket attack was in an area between the Gulf state of Qatar and the Iranian coast where Iranian planes have in the past attacked merchant vessels in retaliation for Iraqi strikes further north on ships carrying Iranian oil.

Gulf shipping sources said the attack was much further south than any previous Iraqi attacks and that it seemed likely the Ira-

nians had hit the Gas Fountain. A spokesman in Singapore for the Seko Salvage Company said Sunday the fire on board had been extinguished but added: "The fire has defroze the liquid gas which has vapourised, creating a dangerous gas cloud. The next several hours will be critical."

A source in the Gulf involved in the salvage operation said gas was still leaking from two holes in the ship's deck, close to the accommodation area. "She could explode or simply keep leaking. We hope she will keep leaking," he said an expert had flown to the area from Britain to help stop the leak.

Other sources said it was not clear whether the gas was leaking from punctured tanks or from deck fittings. They said the heat of the afternoon sun could cause problems in the refrigeration system meant to keep the liquid gas cool.

The Gas Fountain had loaded 19,500 tonnes of pressurised and refrigerated butane and propane gas at the Saudi Arabian port of Ras Tanurah late last Thursday and was headed for the Hormuz Strait, the entrance to the Gulf, when she was hit.

The tugs — two of the British Gray McKenzie Company and one of the Singapore-based Selco

Company — put out the fire "simply by cooling it down with an enormous spray of water," he said.

The Gas Fountain became a "glow of fierce fire seconds after it was attacked" before noon Friday, at a point between Dubai and Qatar before entering the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran has vowed that if the Gulf shipping lanes became insecure for it "then we will make them secure for all" countries of the region.

Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani issued a tit-for-tat warning last month, threatening that for every ship attacked in the war zone the Iranians would raise a ship elsewhere in the Gulf.

The Gas Fountain's 33-man crew — 29 Spaniards and four Greeks — had hurried themselves into the water "minutes after the attack" and managed to reach the Iranian island of Lavan safely after spending seven hours in life rafts, according to marine salvage sources here.

"We are not using sophisticated means to deal with the situation," one executive conceded in an interview. "It is the first time that we are handling a fire in a gas tanker in this region."

He said that the Gas Fountain has sustained "considerable damage, but probably half its cargo is still intact."

The firefighters who have successfully put out the blaze were Filipino, Dutch and British experts.



NUMEIRI IN EGYPT: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (right) greets Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri Sunday on his arrival at Cairo Airport for talks on efforts to integrate the two countries' economies (AP wirephoto)

Israel to stay in Lebanon unless Syria agrees on UNIFIL role

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Israeli forces will remain in southern Lebanon unless Syria agrees to the stationing of United Nations forces in the area, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said in an interview published Sunday.

In the interview, conducted on Friday in New York with Washington Post and Newsweek magazine reporters, Mr. Peres said: "We told the Americans, if Syria is not willing to clarify its position on U.N. forces in an unequivocal way, we're going to remain there."

He also said the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Bekaa Valley would depend on the continued use of Israeli-supported South Lebanon Army soldiers.

Mr. Peres said he would be willing to negotiate with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat, but only if Mr. Arafat dropped demands for the destruction of Israel and the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

The Post said that when Mr. Peres was pressed on this point, he responded: "You want my rea-

listic answer? The 'if' does not exist. I do not expect him to change."

Mr. Peres said the United States should realise that it receives benefits from the large amount of aid it gives to Tel Aviv even though he conceded Israel frequently disobeys Washington's wishes.

"Do you want a disciplined Israel with the participation of an American force, or a free Israel, an independent Israel, though occasionally she may be undisciplined in the way you want?" Mr. Peres said.

Mr. Peres, who was in Washington last week seeking a major increase in U.S. aid to his country, said that the money was not being used to help the Israeli domestic economy but for military needs that benefitted the United States as well.

"The Israelis are not having for breakfast their planes or their tanks or their ships," Mr. Peres said.

Israel has told members of the 10-nation United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) that

it will start pulling its troops out of Lebanon within six months, Israel Radio reported on Sunday. Mr. Peres said in a television interview that the Israeli government would make a decision within "three to four weeks" on withdrawing the army from Lebanon and the pull-out could take six to nine months.

Mr. Peres said Israel would carry out at least a partial withdrawal from Lebanon even if it did not reach agreement with Syria on security guarantees for Israel's northern border. In the event of a partial withdrawal, he said, Israel would keep its forces facing the Syrian army in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, and pull back to the international border in the rest of southern Lebanon.

The United Nations renewed UNIFIL's mandate for another six months last Friday.

Israel Radio said a message had also been passed to the member states of UNIFIL by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and by the United States saying an Israeli pullback would come in six months.

Study shows Zionism, Nazism collaborated against other nations

MOSCOW (Petra) — Two committees looking into Israeli atrocities and criminal actions committed against the Arab people announced here that Israel has conducted a war of genocide against the Palestinians and that conclusive evidence has been found proving that Zionism and Nazism had been in collaboration as two racist movements against other nations.

The findings announced at a press conference followed intensive work by the Soviet Social Committee for Combating the Actions of Zionism and an international committee investigating Israeli crimes against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

A statement read out to the newsmen said that documents have been found proving close cooperation between the Gestapo and Zionist leaders during World War II.

Another document found in the

German embassy in Ankara and presented to the conference proved that Zionist leaders collaborated in military affairs with Hitler's agents in Europe.

The statement said that Israel has been employing the same Nazi tactics in conducting crimes against the peoples of Palestine and Lebanon.

"Nazi-like methods were used in destroying 14 Palestinian camps, three cities along with 32 villages in southern Lebanon and hundreds of people were imprisoned by the Zionist invaders in 1982," the statement said.

Furthermore, it said thousands of Arabs detained in Israeli jails are subjected to torture in violation of international laws and human rights principles.

The statement said Israel has "carried out a war of genocide against the Palestinian people, massacring more than 3,500 innocent people in Sabra and Shatila refugee camps alone."

Sharaf leaves for Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — Information Minister Laila Sharaf left for Tunis Sunday at the head of an official delegation to take part in the Arab ministers of information conference due to open at the Arab League Monday.

The ministers will discuss a pan-Arab information strategy to be implemented at international level and will study recommendations submitted by the Arab Information Standing Committee which ended meetings in Tunis Saturday.

During her stay in Tunis, the minister will discuss with Tunisian Information Minister Abdul Raz-

zaq Al Kafi scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Tunisia in information affairs and will tour archaeological and cultural sites in Tunisia.

Mrs. Sharaf is also expected to sign an information cooperation and coordination agreement between Jordan and Tunisia.

Mrs. Sharaf is accompanied by Mr. Jawad Maraqa, director of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra. She will be joined by the Information Ministry under Secretary Michel Hamarneh and other officials who had been in Tunis attending the standing committee meeting.

Junblatt ends Libyan visit

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt and five other leftist Lebanese leaders have left Tripoli after talks with Libyan leader Muammar 'Jadhafi, the Libyan News Agency JANA said Sunday.

Mr. Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), and leaders of five other Lebanese leftist parties, travelled to Libya last week immediately after announcing the formation of a new opposition "National Democratic Front" in Beirut.

In addition to the PSP, the front groups the Lebanese Communist Party, the pro-Syrian Arab Baath Organisation, the Arab Democratic Party, the National Syrian Social Party and the Arab Socialist Union.

JANA said last week all the front's leaders had met Col. Jadhafi for talks. Mr. Junblatt left Libya Saturday.

Announcing its formation, the front said it would support anti-Israeli guerrillas "in their struggle to liberate occupied territory."

Turkish minister in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Turkish Foreign Minister Yalvar Haliloglu arrived here Sunday to discuss bilateral cooperation, an Iraqi official said without elaboration.

Mr. Haliloglu said nothing to reporters on his arrival, but informed sources in Ankara told Reuters Saturday the visit was to discuss action against Kurdish guerrillas who have killed eight Turkish soldiers in the past week.

Turkish troops have come

under repeated attacks from guerrillas since starting a major operation near the border with Iraq after raids on two towns in mid-August.

Turkish forces crossed into Iraq last year in a search for Kurdish guerrillas fighting for a greater measure of self-rule.

The guerrillas are active in a wide strip of rugged, mountainous territory along the Iraq-Turkey border.

Kuwait, Denmark review economic cooperation

KUWAIT (AP) — The prime ministers of Kuwait and Denmark held a session of economic cooperation talks here Sunday, amid reports the West European country was out to adjust its balance of trade with the Arab oil countries of the Gulf region.

The Kuwait News Agency reported only that bilateral relations and questions of mutual interest were discussed by Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah of Kuwait and Paul Schluter, who arrived Saturday on the first leg of a three-nation Gulf tour.

Mr. Schluter was the first Danish prime minister ever to visit Kuwait. The Kuwaitis have been according him red carpet treatment, which underscored what Arab diplomatic sources described as Arab eagerness to perpetuate and improve existing ties with Denmark.

Flanked on both sides by a high-powered delegation, Mr. Schluter sat at the negotiating table with Sheikh Saad to deliberate means of boosting economic cooperation, mainly in the domain of trade exchange, these sources said.

The Danes, they said, have been viewing the Gulf region as a promising market for Danish pro-

ducts which they have exported in growing volumes over the past decade.

Earlier in the day, the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, received Mr. Schluter and members of his delegation for a brief discussion of relations between the two countries.

Sources said the Emir offered his blessings to every effort being exerted to improve economic cooperation between Kuwait and Denmark.

Sheikh Jaber and Mr. Schluter also reviewed the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war. The sheikh, the sources said, underlined to Mr. Schluter Kuwait's insistence on a just solution that guarantees the "rights of the Palestinian people" in any negotiations with the Israelis.

Sheikh Sabah also reiterated Kuwait's "keenness on exerting more efforts" to bring the four-year-old Gulf conflict between Iraq and Iran to an end.

During their session of talks, Sheikh Saad and Mr. Schluter examined means of initiating joint venture investments by Kuwaiti and Danish capital in industrial and agricultural projects, the sources said.

Libya will pull out of Chad, France says

N'DJAMENA (R) — The commander-in-chief of the French Armed Forces, Gen. Jean-Louis Lacaze, Sunday expressed confidence Libya would pull its troops out of Chad.

He told reporters at the end of a three-day visit that he had no doubts Tripoli would not respect a Franco-Libyan accord agreed last month to mutually withdraw their troops from Chad.

"There is no reason to suspect the Libyan forces will not respect the accord... we are certain the Libyans have begun to withdraw," Gen. Lacaze said before leaving for the central African republic.

Chadian officials have voiced concern that Libya would not pull all of its estimated 5,000 men out of Chad and would again intervene in their country once the French had withdrawn.

Last week the Habre government announced it had accepted that France and Libya would jointly supervise the withdrawal of each other's forces, rather than calling in outside parties.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION	
MAIN CHANNEL	
17:00	Koran
17:10	Cartoons
17:30	Children Programme
18:00	Documentary
18:30	Children Programme
19:00	Life and Science
19:40	News Programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Local Comedy
21:00	Arabic Series
22:00	Programme Review
22:15	Arabic Series
23:00	News in Arabic
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:30	Comedy: Just Good Friends
21:10	Documentary
22:00	News in English
22:15	Jemima
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.60 KHz. SW	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Evening Show
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:05	Morning Show
11:00	Pop Session
12:00	News Summary
12:05	Pop Session
13:00	News Summary
13:05	Pop Session
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	Instrumentals
14:30	Over a Cup of Tea
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:05	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:30	Classical Show Case
18:00	Pop Session
18:05	News Summary
18:30	Sports Round-up
19:00	News Bulletin
19:30	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:05	News Summary
23:00	News Summary
24:00	News Headlines
BBC WORLD SERVICE	
639, 720, 1413 KHz	
VOICE OF AMERICA	
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz	
06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour, news summaries, daily business reports, science and medicine, sports reports, VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; viewpoints; features 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Music USA standards 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Music USA standards 21:00 Newsline 21:30 Magazine Show 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
"An exhibition of original paintings of 'Birds and Wildlife in Jordan' by leading contemporary British artists at the British Council (until Oct. 25).	
"Between Art and Industry" — organized by Goethe Institute in cooperation with Department of Architecture at the University of Jordan. Saturday 11 a.m. at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Jordan. (Until Oct. 18)	
* Hungarian Industries Exhibition from 13 to 15 October at Amra Hotel.	
LECTURE	
* A slide lecture entitled "The seeding of the Cosmos" by Paolo Soleri at 6:30 p.m. at the American Centre auditorium.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. tel. 6610267	American Centre .. 4371
British Council .. 36147-8	French Cultural Centre .. 37009
Goswami Institute .. 41993	Soviet Cultural Centre .. 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 24049	Turkish Cultural Centre .. 39777
Haya Arts Centre .. 665195	Hussein Youth City .. 66781
Y.W.C.A. .. 664251	Amman Municipal Library .. 36111
University of Jordan Library .. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qaf'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) St. Joseph, Amman, tel. 24590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwibdeh, 37440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, 22541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redemptor) Amman, 41559.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.	
Armenian Interdenominational Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.	
PRAYER TIMES	
04:17	Fajr
05:40	Sunrise
11:22	Dhuhr
14:28	Asr
17:05	Maghreb
18:28	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

05:50	Cairo (MS)
06:10	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
06:30	Agaba (RJ)
06:45	Cairo (RJ)
06:55	Muscat, Bahrain (RJ)
07:05	Kuwait (RJ)
07:10	Dhahran (RJ)
07:15	Lamaca, Damascus (RJ)
07:20	Beirut (RJ)
07:30	Muscat, Dubai, Bahrain (GF)
07:40	Kuwait (KU)
07:50	Jeddah, Medina (SV)
08:00	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
08:15	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
08:45	Cairo (RJ)
08:45	Baghdad (BA)
09:00	London, Baghdad (BA)
09:10	Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

08:45	Cairo (RJ)
09:30	Beirut (RJ)
09:50	Cairo (MS)
07:15	Agaba (RJ)
08:15	Beirut (MEA)
08:30	Athens (OA)
11:00	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30	Athens (RJ)
11:30	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:00	London (RJ)
12:15	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30	Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:50	Kuwait (RJ)
13:30	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
15:40	Kuwait (KU)
16:25	Istanbul, Bagra (JU)
16:40	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:30	Kuwait, Dubai (RJ)
19:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:45	Dhahran (RJ)
20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
20:15	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:45	Cairo (RJ)
21:15	Baghdad (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port.

— Florida
— Manzanara Arabia
— Hodeidah Crown
— Jolly Celeste
— Farah One
— Kruzavica
— Atalya

Amn Kavar and Sons Company, Tel. 22324 (six lines) at your service.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds	
Belgian franc	63.7/ 64.1
Dutch guilder	114/ 114.6
Egyptian guinea	325/ 331
French franc	41.9/ 42.1
Iraqi dinar	363.6/ 368.2
Italian lire (for 100)	20.7/ 20.9
Japanese yen (for 100)	161.4/ 162.3
Kuwaiti dinar	133.6/ 133.8
Lebanese lira	51.2/ 51.8
Omani rial	1150/ 1156.6
Qatari riyal	109.5/ 110.3
Saudi riyal	112.6/ 113.2
Swedish crown	45.8/ 46
Swiss franc	156.3/ 157.2
Syrian lira	44.5/ 45.3
UAE dirham	108.8/ 109.6
U.K. sterling pound	489.4/ 492.3
U.S. dollar	400/ 402
W. German mark	128.3/ 129.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A drop in temperature is expected, with northerly moderate winds, in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C	
Amman	17/28
Aqaba	21/35
Deserts	16/32
Jordan Valley	21/35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 27. Humidity readings: Amman 29 per cent, Aqaba 23

Walking robots take their first steps

American researchers have a 1990 deadline from the military to develop a walking robot that can cover rough ground at up to 20 kilometres an hour. Peter Marsh reports on their progress with machines that have anything from one to six legs.

Engineers in the U.S. have started a \$50 million project to develop an unmanned vehicle that would steer itself at up to 20 km/hour over virtually any terrain from tarmac to rough countryside.

Rather than navigate around obstacles such as lumps of rock (or ordinary road users), the vehicle will walk over them. Instead of using wheels, engineers will equip the vehicle with four legs, each about two metres tall.

The project has a lot to offer the world's car and factory equipment industries, claims Mr. Roger Schappell, an engineer with Martin Marietta Aerospace in Denver who is one of the programme's managers.

Mr. Schappell has already discussed with researchers at General Motors how ordinary cars could be improved by navigation equipment that, for example, detects the presence of obstacles or automatically steers around corners.

Companies that make industrial robots could also benefit from technologies that the programme develops. Most robots in factories stay in fixed positions. But walking

machines could open up new opportunities — for instance, they could replace human supervisors in jobs such as inspection of machine tools.

The unmanned vehicle programme is sponsored by the U.S. Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), a division of the Department of Defence. DARPA is paying Martin Marietta \$17 million to act as project manager for part of the study.

A dozen or so other contractors are working on smaller parts of the project, which is due to end in 1990 with a demonstration of a legged system that can work out for itself how to traverse 20 kilometres of countryside.

Human operators will command the machine rather than a shepherd controls a dog. Shepherds give their charges fairly general instructions about rounding up sheep, leaving to the animal the minutiae of how to go about the job.

In a similar way, DARPA engineers plan to give their vehicle only simple instructions, for example, to go from point A to point B in the shortest time possible.

The computers in the system would work out how to do the task.

In the early stages of the project, engineers would communicate with the vehicle by a keyboard. As a result of research in voice-recognition techniques, they hope later to tell the system what to do simply by talking to it.

According to Dr. Clinton Kelly, the DARPA scientist in charge of the programme, the U.S. Army could employ hardware based on the unmanned vehicle. Such equipment could ferry supplies or even weapons across rough countryside. It could act as a mobile sentry or go on mapping missions.

The contraption will be based on work at Ohio State University. There, Dr. Bob McGhee, who has worked for 19 years on walking vehicles, is nearing the end of his latest project. This is to design, on behalf of DARPA, a six-legged machine that is five metres long and can climb up steps some two metres tall.

This item of hardware, on which DARPA has spent \$3.4 million so far, will be assembled by the end of the year. At this point it will become a central part of the unmanned vehicle project.

Dr. McGhee's current machine, which he has developed with Professor Kenneth Waldron, will

have a driver. This person will control the machine from a cockpit on top of the vehicle. He will steer with a joystick, similar to that used by helicopter pilots.

Each of the contraption's six legs has three joints and its own computer. The vehicle's other nine computers work out its position and channel instructions to the legs.

The device "sees" obstacles in front of it with a scanning mechanism. This sends instructions to the computers that control the legs, in such a way that all the limbs are co-ordinated and the machine does not tumble over like some demented insect.

"The pilot controls the machine like a rider controls a horse," observes Dr. McGhee. "People on horses point the animal in the right direction but do not tell it how to trot."

According to Dr. McGhee's calculations, the machine (which runs on a converted motorcycle engine) will walk at about 12 km/hour. Petrol consumption will be high, at roughly one kilometre a litre.

Over the next few years engineers plan radically to alter Dr. McGhee's current vehicle. They will adapt it so it does not require a driver. Secondly, they will strip off two of its legs. Six-legged machines,

though highly stable, would never reach the high speeds that DARPA requires for the 1990s version of the vehicle.

In this part of the programme, DARPA is pinning its hopes on Dr. Marc Raibert, a computer scientist at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Dr. Raibert is working on laboratory models of four-legged walking hardware that has a reasonable chance of reaching DARPA's targeted speed of 20 km/h.

The Pittsburgh researcher started in this area with work on a one-legged machine, the so-called "pogo stick" robot. With the proper instructions, he was able to keep this bouncing up and down for minutes on end.

Dr. Raibert says that to control the device was much simpler than he thought. Just three factors were important: the speed of the "pogo-stick" over the ground; the height of jumps; and whether the body of the hardware remained upright.

The Environmental Research Institute of Michigan, a company in Ann Arbor, is developing a laser scanner that will give the contraption a three-dimensional picture of its surroundings up to 100 metres away. The information will be supplemented by images from colour TV cameras.

The data from these sensors will be compared with digital images of maps of the terrain that the machine is covering.

Dr. Kelly has a detailed schedule for the development of the hardware. By next May, workers hope to demonstrate an unmanned wheeled vehicle that can travel for 10 kilometres along a road at five km/hour.

In May 1986, researchers want the hardware to travel at 10 km/h along a road studded every 30 metres with obstacles up to two metres high.

In 1987, the machine, still on wheels, will be unleashed without an operator across rough country, probably part of the Arizona desert. The crunch will come in 1989 when engineers assemble the two elements of the programme — the work on navigation systems using wheels and the development of the walking machine.

The final version of the hardware, thinks Dr. Kelly, will be powered by a gas-turbine engine. But on one small matter, he has not made up his mind. Although defence funds are paying for the project, he does not think the mechanism should look like a military vehicle. "I don't know what colour we're going to paint it — but it won't be Army green" — Financial Times news feature.

Randa Habib's Corner

A human aspect to it

MANY JORDANIAN company directors and businessmen complained to me about the harshness of the new laws regarding foreign labour. It has become almost impossible for them to renew the permits of most of their workers, the reason given by the authorities for this is the replacement of those workers by Jordanians. Very good, but we all know that more often than not, it is virtually impossible. There are many jobs that Jordanians refuse to perform. Jordanian businessmen prefer to hire Jordanians because it is cheaper and for many other considerations. But sometimes it is very difficult to find a Jordanian who accepts to perform such tasks or one who is qualified to do such jobs. What is presently happening is that when a company owner sends the passports of his employees to renew their permits, the passports are kept and the authorities ask them to send them the holders of the passports. Then two things can happen, if their profession is not common, their permits are renewed, but if they are simple technicians or workers they are deported.

Concerning this, a reader called me to tell me that one of his Indian friends who was renewing his permit spent the night in prison and was put on the first plane back home. The problem is that this Indian subject had a wife and child in Amman (a nurse at the University Hospital) and it was with great difficulty he could take his kid with him to India. What is happening? It is OK to keep strict control over foreign labour and that the Ministry of Labour charges JD 30 as fees for the works permit of the foreigner and JD 15 for the Arabs, but let's be logical.

The humane side should be taken into consideration when applying these laws. Anyway, according to contractors the first result of all these deportations is that the foreigner holding a freshly renewed permit cashes five times as much because he has become a rare bird and as such once again the Jordanian is the loser in this matter.

FOR SALE

1980 - Datsun 280c
JD 500
Duty not paid

Telephone - 661388 - 8a.m.-2p.m.

MAID NEEDED

Needed immediately for a small family, a live-in maid, good conditions.

Please call 670311 or 676910

FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

Consists of three bedrooms, lounge, salon, American-style kitchen, servant's room, small garden, central heating with telephone and colour television.

Location: Behind Jerusalem International Hotel
Call: 21592

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Fully furnished apartment, two bedrooms, spacious salon, dining room and kitchen. With separate heating system and telephone.

Location: One block south of the Australian & Greek Embassies, 4th Circle - Jabal Amman.
For inquiries please call 818594

Astronomers to search for menacing asteroids

By Donald J. Frederick

KITT PEAK, Ariz. — Perched on top of a 50-foot-high dome housing a 36-inch telescope at Kitt Peak, Ariz., astronomer Tom Gehrels talks about asteroids, and all seems right with the world. It's a sparkling day. Bathed in the sun, other nearby domes poke from the peak like glittering white mushrooms.

Yet the same asteroids that fascinate Mr. Gehrels also cast a shadow of concern.

The asteroids are rock-metal fragments that wheel around the sun, most of the known ones in a narrow orbit between Mars and Jupiter. But asteroids or pieces of them occasionally escape their orbits and could slam into Earth with disastrous results.

Killed the dinosaurs

Some scientists are convinced that the extinction of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago was caused by the impact of a comet or asteroid, which disturbed the atmosphere and kicked up so much debris that it obscured the sun. The resulting darkness and cold were lethal to the dinosaurs and many other life forms.

The crater left by just a small chunk of asteroid still scars a plain in northern Arizona near Flagstaff. Gouged from unbroken level terrain about 22,000 years ago, the floor of the crater is 570 feet deep, the rim more than three miles in circumference. At least 20 football games could be played simultaneously on the floor, watched by two million spectators on the crater's sloping sides.

The chances of getting zapped by an asteroid in a given year have been estimated at three in a million, but Mr. Gehrels concedes that it could happen, and it would be devastating. An object measuring only a kilometre, a little more than half a mile in diameter, would create the same damage

and havoc as a major nuclear exchange without the radiation, he says.

Bustling about the darkened dome while getting ready for an evening's work, he mused. "You can never be certain. There might be an asteroid out there that could impact Earth just 30 years from now. It would be criminal if we didn't attempt to find it, so we could at least try to avoid the collision."

So far it's been difficult to spot many of the fainter, smaller, fast-moving, near-earth asteroids with ordinary ground-based telescopes.

To rectify this, Mr. Gehrels and some of his colleagues are working on an instrument that not only would pick up these faint objects, but would also identify their sizes and those that might be suitable for future space missions.

Finds interesting orbits

Called the space watch camera, the instrument is a sort of combination telescope, computer, and camera that with a microwave link will feed vital data back and forth between Steward Observatory at Kitt Peak and Mr. Gehrels' laboratory at the University of Arizona in Tucson. It will identify interesting asteroids for the astronomer and enable him to zero in on their orbits within minutes of their discovery.

But what if the odds stacked so heavily in Earth's favour ran out? Eugene Shoemaker, a U.S. Geological Survey geologist specialising in asteroids, is convinced that a catastrophe could be averted, provided the nations of the world worked together.

He thinks that given enough time, some kind of device could be propelled into space that would push the potential killer into a safer orbit.

Cautions Mr. Shoemaker, "The operation would have to be done very carefully, because you wouldn't want to break the asteroid



A small asteroid crashes into one almost 10 times its size and shatters into fragments. Asteroids, or chunks of them, sometimes leave their orbits and could strike Earth. Although odds against such a natural

disaster are considered great, scientists are developing new instrumentation to keep an eye out for potentially menacing asteroids (National Geographic photo)

into pieces and compound the problem."

In the last 12 years, Eleanor Helin, a staff scientist with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Mr. Shoemaker, and his astronomer wife, Carolyn, have discovered 20 asteroids whose orbits will at some time intersect Earth's. At present, there are 59 known Earth-crossers, and about 40 of these are larger than a kilometre in diameter.

Mr. Shoemaker estimates there are at least 2,000 more of these large, potentially dangerous asteroids out there. He hopes the space camera will help find them and smaller ones.

Visit from Hermes

The closest encounter Earth has had with an asteroid this century occurred in 1937 when an object named Hermes zoomed to within

about twice the moon's distance from Earth.

Mr. Shoemaker calls the asteroid belt "a vast zoo in which all kinds of rare beasts are preserved — remnants of the building blocks that once formed parts of the solar system."

Among Mr. Shoemaker's favourites are some asteroids in the outer part of the belt formed from material he thinks once came from the neighbourhood of Uranus and Neptune. "They probably have a gooey, black, sort of tar-like substance in them, primitive material that was formed in interstellar space," he says.

Scientists agree that the asteroids contain all sorts of materials, including metals ranging from iron and nickel to platinum and gold. Prospectors of the 21st century, however, initially may ignore the precious metals and mine the asteroids for the more

basic materials needed to build platforms, space stations, and manufacturing plants in space.

Ceres, the largest known asteroid, may someday be a mining candidate. Robert L. Millis, a staff astronomer at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz., soon hopes to determine the precise size of the asteroid. Heading a team that will deploy four telescopes in Mexico this November, Mr. Millis and his colleagues will attempt to view Ceres as it passes between the Earth and a moderately bright star in the constellation Cetus.

"These rare occultations enable us to measure the diameters of asteroids with incredible accuracy," explained Millis.

Named and numbered

New asteroids are being dis-

SCANDINAVIAN SHOWROOM

- *Living rooms
- *Dining rooms
- *Bedroom sets
- *Wall units
- *Lighting fixtures
- *Club B for children
- *Modern Danish design
- *Feather upholstery
- *Danish-Pack Homes
- *Tax-free if applicable

Tel. 663890 Civil defence street

GARDENS

LEISURE CENTRE
RESTAURANT FOR THE ELITE
Tel: 842171
Tel: 842172
RESTAURANT ALL SEA FOOD
LEBANESE HORS D'OEUVRE
BABY GARDENS WITH ELECTRONIC TOYS
CINERAMA 70 MM
MOST EXCITING PICTURES
SWIMMING POOL

CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO

3rd Circle, Jabal Amman, Opp. Akilah Hospital.
Airconditioned
TYPICAL CHINESE FOOD
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m. - midnight
Tel. 41093

RESTAURANT CHINA

Airconditioned
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight
Tel. 39968

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbeque for lunch FRIDAY
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialties
Open daily 12:00 noon - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight

SRS The Regency Palace Hotel

We Bring The Orient To You At
French Cuisine Restaurant
WITH THE LEBANESE DANCE GROUP
FRANCO-ARAB THE FIRE BIRDS BAND
& The Famous Dancer LOUITA
Res. 660000/15

Daily Business Luncheon Buffet

To advertise in this section



Phone 666320

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 664090 Tel: 22205 BESICO JO
Cable: Musabehoo
P.O. Box 526467
AMMAN JORDAN

To advertise in this section



Phone 666320

To advertise in this section



Phone 666320

CHINA RESTAURANT

ABOVE HOMAN SUPERMARKET
The first and best Chinese restaurant in Aqaba
Take-away service available
Open daily 11:30 - 3:30 - and 6:30 - 11:00
AQABA, Tel. 4415

RESTAURANT CHINA

ABOVE HOMAN SUPERMARKET
The first and best Chinese restaurant in Aqaba
Take-away service available
Open daily 11:30 - 3:30 - and 6:30 - 11:00
AQABA, Tel. 4415

To advertise in this section



Phone 666320

To advertise in this section



Phone 666320

IVBF suspends Taiwan team

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The International Volleyball Federation (IVBF) has suspended the Taiwan team from participating in international competitions because it had pulled out of the Asian Junior Championship Games here, it was announced here Sunday.

The nationalist China team pulled out of the competitions last Friday because they were not permitted to raise flag during the games.

IVBF President Ruben Acosta said the sanctions against Taiwan

at the Dariyeh sports complex, near the Saudi Arabian capital city of Riyadh, where the competitions were being held.

He said Taiwan violated an agreement made by The International Olympic Committee which, he said, had ruled that Taiwan was allowed to play as Chinese-Taipei and "must use the Olympic flag."

Taiwan's emissary here said that the team would play only if all countries were permitted to raise their national colours, or if all participants raised the Olympic flag.

Sweden's Jarryd claims Australian indoor title

SYDNEY (R) — Anders Jarryd gave the Swedish Davis Cup selectors an enviable problem Sunday when he crushed Ivan Lendl in straight sets to win the Australian Indoor Tennis Championship.

Jarryd's 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 triumph means Sweden now have three in-form players challenging for the two singles slots in the Davis Cup final against the U.S. in December.

World number four Mats Wilander seems certain to claim one of those places, leaving Jarryd and Henrik Sundstrom to battle it out for the other position.

Before Jarryd's demolition of Lendl, Sundstrom had been seen as the obvious choice, even though he is ranked two places below his compatriot at number eight in the world rankings.

But Jarryd's performance against a man he had not taken a set off in five previous encounters must have boosted his claims. Lendl, the French Open champion, was moved around the court like a chess piece as the Swede dismantled his power game in 122 minutes.

Jarryd, who has continually lost out to Sundstrom and Joakim Nyström in the Davis Cup, described

his triumph as "the best match I've ever played."

He secured the first set by virtue of a service break in the eighth game and strengthened his case by capturing Lendl's renowned serve in the opening game of the second set.

The normally placid Czechoslovak, without a tournament win since he beat John McEnroe in the French Open final in June, was fortunate to escape a warning when he reacted to that break by slamming his racket on the floor.

Lendl, who dropped his serve for a third time in the seventh game, admitted: "He outplayed me. When he hits the ball like that there's not much anyone can do."

Tigers beat Padres

DETROIT (R) — Alan Trammell's two home runs and Jack Morris's five-hit pitching gave the Detroit Tigers a 4-2 win over the San Diego Padres Saturday and a 3-1 advantage in baseball's World Series.

Trammell hit successive home runs in the first and third innings, for four runs batted in as the Tigers knocked San Diego starter Eric Show from the mound after two and two third innings.

It was the 33rd multiple home run performance in World Series play by a total of 26 different players. Only Babe Ruth, twice, and Reggie Jackson, once, have hit three home runs in a World Series game.

Detroit leadoff man Lou Whitaker reached first safely on an error by Padre second baseman Alan Wiggins. Trammell then slammed a pitch into the leftfield

stands for two runs.

In the top of the second inning San Diego catcher Terry Kennedy blasted a line drive home run into the upper deck in rightfield to reduce the margin to 2-1.

In the bottom of the third, Whitaker singled to right and took second on an error by rightfielder Tony Gwynn. Trammell hit his second homer for a 4-1 lead.

The Padres only other run came in the top of the ninth inning when with one out Steve Garvey doubled to left and took third on an infield out. While pitching to Kennedy, Morris threw a wild pitch allowing Garvey to score.

It was Morris's second win in the best of seven World Series, with game five scheduled for Detroit Sunday.

Morris walked none and struck out four.

Asians dominate Peking marathon

PEKING (R) — Japan's Kita Hideki led an Asian raid on the Peking marathon Sunday, sprinting home four seconds ahead of compatriot Ito Kunimitsu to set a new best time for the four-year-old event.

Hideki, 32, and Kunimitsu, 29, ran side by side for the last 16 kilometres (10 miles) and it was only in the last 200 metres the race was decided.

His winning time of two hours 12 minutes 16 seconds knocked more than two minutes off the course record of 2:14:44 set by North Korean Li Jong Hyon in 1982.

Kunimitsu finished in 2:12:20 with China's Zeng Chaohue third in 2:15:10.05.

The first non-Asian finisher was Denmark's Henrik Joergensen, 19th in the Los Angeles Olympics, who came home in ninth place over six minutes behind Hideki.

American Ron Tabb, the 1983 winner, was forced to drop out after 28 kilometres (17.5 miles) with a leg injury which has been troubling him since last year's race.

LUXURY FURNISHED VILLA FOR RENT

The villa is located in Sweifiyyeh, Sixth Circle area in Jabal Amman. Composed of three bedrooms (one master bedroom) large T-shape sitting and dining room, separate living room, two more bathrooms, all fully furnished with modern new furniture and equipment with large luxurious kitchen.

Annexed to the villa a basement wing of one bedroom, and bathroom for maid use and another lobby for children's games.

The villa has a separate telephone, central heating, garage, panoramic terraces and balconies and large beautiful garden and B-B-Q.

Please contact 819204

FOR RENT DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT

One fully-furnished apartment in Umm Utheinah, opposite Amra Hotel, Sixth Circle, Jabal Amman, first floor. It consists of one master bedroom, a second bedroom, sitting room, dining room, lobby, fully-equipped kitchen, washing room, second bathroom, with wall-to-wall carpets and modern-style furniture, washing machine, vacuum cleaner, colour TV, stereo, telephone, and central heating.

Contact Tel. 668505 or 669376 or 812229 (Minimum lease one year)

FLAT FOR RENT

3 bedrooms, vast salon, verandah, 2 bathrooms, separate central heating. Location: Between the north entrance of Jordan University and the main entrance of the Royal Scientific Society.

Can be rented either furnished or unfurnished.

Call: 771581 between 8:00 in the morning and 3:00 after noon and Tel: 660371 between 3:00 — 8:00

Jordan Times
Tel: 666320

MUTA TOURS

Announcing tours to Bangkok-Pattaya for 12 days. Price JD 298. For the period from 23 Dec. '84 to 3rd Jan. 1985.

We offer a very joyful programme for X'mas and the New Year season.

For information contact Tel. 660100 Ext. 2121, Marriott Hotel, Shmeisani, Amman.

FOR RENT

Deluxe furnished apartment with three bedrooms, three bathrooms, living, sitting and dining rooms. With veranda, private telephone and garage. Location: Shmeisani area. Behind Tyche Hotel, third building to the left.

Net price: JD 4,000
Call 664082 for more information

FURNISHED FLATS FOR RENT

Each consists of
a) One bedroom, living room, kitchen and bath.
b) Two bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and bath.
Central heating and telephone.
Location: Jabal Amman between 3rd and 4th Circles.
Tel: 41443

IF YOU THINK CAT GENERATOR SETS ARE TOO EXPENSIVE... CHECK AGAIN.
QUALITY, FEATURES, DEALER SUPPORT, EASE OF MAINTENANCE, PRICE

CATERPILLAR GENERATOR SETS 62 TO 1600 K.V.A. COMPLETE PACKAGES

- SOUND PROOF ENCLOSURES AVAILABLE
- MANY SATISFIED CUSTOMERS IN JORDAN
- EXCELLENT PARTS & SERVICE SUPPORT
- SPECIAL SERVICE & MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

JORDAN TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.
UNIVERSITY ROAD-AMMAN, JORDAN
P.O. BOX 318, TELEX 21226 JO, PH. 66141/2/3
BRANCH: IFBD, P.O. BOX 1301, PH. 2120

Caterpillar, Cat and D are Trademarks of Caterpillar Tractor Co.

WHY

Chase Manhattan Bank is the right bank for you

It's a problem we understand

Sometimes it's not what you want to do at your Bank but actually getting to it that is a major problem. And finding a parking space can take a very long time.

At Chase Manhattan Bank in Amman, we feel that our customer's problems are our own. And that's why we introduced FREE CAR PARKING for Chase customers. So you get to us faster, then we clear your business fast, and you get your banking done easily and without problems. After all - that's what good banking is all about: Service that's personal, fast, efficient and caring.



CHASE

Your kind of Bank

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK N.A. - We solve your banking problems.
FIRST CIRCLE JABAL AMMAN. P.O. Box - 20191, Tel: 25131

SECRETARY REQUIRED

Secretary/typist required to work with consultant group. Must be fluent in English and Arabic. Experience with word processing would be an advantage.

Hours 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Please contact 35111 Ext. 66 for interview.

AQUAMARIA HOTEL

A NEW LUXURIOUS HOTEL ON THE SEA SHORE IN LIMASSOL-CYPRUS

Make yourself at home in Aquamarina's friendly atmosphere. Aquamarina is situated in the heart of the market which means a quick access to most major places of interest in the city, for sightseeing, business, entertainment, shopping.

Save time, save taxi expenses and go shopping.

- * 77 spacious, all modern rooms, luxuriously appointed with air conditioning and central heating, colour TV, two video channels, four radio channels, direct dial phone and balconies overlooking the sea.
- * A beautiful Roofgarden swimming pool.
- * Two Cocktail Bars.
- * Two Restaurants with a variety of delicious Cyprus and Continental food. (fresh fish served)

For Reservation apply:
Aquamarina Hotel
Tel. 051-74277, Telex: 4672
AQUAMARI CY
or to your tourist agent.

All the above with very low prices.

HURRY AND SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

A new luxurious 400 M² unfurnished upper floor, in a building of only two floors, is now available on rent. The floor consists of: three bedrooms (one master), three bathrooms, fully equipped kitchen, a vast 'L' shaped reception hall, living room, veranda, three balconies with excellent view, utility room... etc. Centrally heated, solar water heating net work, and many other facilities. Location: Quiet and exclusive; top of the hill just behind the Jerusalem Hotel.

For information please contact tel. 665015 between 8 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and Tel. 660458 after 2.00 p.m.



Cinema CONCORD

Tel: 44092-44280
THE BORDERS
(Colour)
"Arabic Film"
Tel: 677420
Performances 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema AL-HUSSEIN

Tel: 22117
BATTLE OF THE FLYING TIGERS
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 25155
ENDLESS LOVE
(Colour)
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema ZAHARAN

Tel: 23171
RETURN OF TARZAN
Italian film
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema OPERA

THE BORDERS
(Colour)
"Arabic Film"
Abdall, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117
THE PORTER
(Colour)
"MAX" THE FEROCIOUS
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198
FIRE FOX
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-5:30-7

A track record for losing money

TOKYO — If you wanted to buy a railway coach for conversion into, say, a restaurant or a cottage, then Japanese National Railways (JNR) would be happy to sell you one for about three million yen (\$120,000) — less a discount of 500,000 yen if you did not want it freshly painted.

And, if you wanted somewhere to put it, JNR is also trying to sell some of its 672 square metres real estate portfolio, which includes choice city centre sites.

The state-owned railway corporation is desperate for money. In September it announced a record loss of 1.66 trillion yen for its 1983-84 fiscal year, and the outlook for its services remains bleak. The corporation's long-term debt is, at more than 20 trillion yen, now roughly equivalent to the external debt of Mexico.

JNR's auditors simultaneously put forward a two-point proposal for improving the financial position, including streamlining, concentrating on profitable business, and of little-used lines, reducing employees, and restraining capital investment.

The recommendations are similar in spirit to those of a five-year rehabilitation programme drawn up by JNR management in 1980. That also looked to a reduced labour force — at present 25,000 workers are without fixed jobs — and the closure of some loss-making lines.

However, the continued decline of passenger and freight revenues has meant that, even with belt-tightening, JNR's losses have not achieved the modest reduction sought in the five-year plan, but have continued to grow.

JNR's problems are of a kind familiar to most state-owned railways. It makes money on inter-city passenger trunk routes, but loses much more on rural branch lines. Freight business has largely been lost over the last 30 years to road haulage. The corporation has reported a loss for each year since 1964.

In 1960, JNR handled 39 per cent of Japan's freight traffic; in 1982, 7 per cent. Over the same period, road hauliers expanded their share from 15 per cent to 45 per cent.

A similar erosion has taken place in passenger traffic; where JNR's share fell from 51 per cent in 1960 to 24 per cent in 1982, while the share attributable to cars rose from 5 per cent to 43 per cent.

Japan also has several private railway operators, which accounted for 16 per cent of passenger traffic, and a small amount of freight. The private railways typically outshine JNR in performance because they concentrate on the main commuter, and leisure routes, and because the operators have more freedom in wage negotiations.

JNR's most profitable line, the "Yamanote" loop around central Tokyo, yields a profit of 66 yen for each 100 yen of ticket revenue. The least profitable, the Biko line in the sparsely-populated nor-

thern island of Hokkaido, loses 4,680 yen per 100 yen of ticket revenue. JNR's operating expenses on its freight services total four times the related revenues.

Japan is a transport economist's nightmare. Some 90 per cent of the population lives in 30 per cent of the land area.

Virtually all the country's major industry and commerce is concentrated in a 400-mile belt of unrelieved urbanism between Tokyo and Osaka on the southern coast of Honshu island. Most of the remainder of Japan comprises forests, hills, and outlying islands, punctuated by small far-flung towns and villages.

Local lines account for almost half JNR's operating network, but carry just 5 per cent of its traffic. JNR has cut some local lines, and wants to cut more.

But while it might be tempting to axe many branch lines, sweeping reductions would be politically difficult in a country in which most MPs are chiefly concerned with the defence of special constituency interests.

While JNR has an uphill struggle to break even simply on its day-to-day operations, it has no prospect of trading its way out from under the balance sheet strains imposed by its accumulated debt, and by pension-fund obligations to a large and elderly workforce.

JNR's personnel problems date from the immediate post-war years, according to analysts. That was when it absorbed returning railwaymen from the colonial territories formerly held by Japan in Taiwan and mainland China.

From a manpower peak of 600,000 soon after the war, JNR is moving towards a 320,000-strong workforce in 1985.

To achieve the cuts, it has offered inducements including early retirement, temporary layoffs, transfer of surplus workers to new jobs, and outplacement of workers to affiliated companies.

The cuts have been opposed by the national railway workers' union (Kokuro), which claims that JNR's management is not adequately protecting the interests of the workforce, and may be planning further job cuts.

Job trimming cannot, however, reduce the drain on JNR's funds of its accumulated pension liability. The "bulge" of workers recruited in the post-war years, and now at or past retirement age, points to a ratio in 1985 of perhaps 116 JNR pensioners for every 100 active workers contributing to the fund.

For the current financial year, JNR is budgeting some \$10 billion yen in "special personnel costs" to fund early retirement benefits and excessive pension outgoings.

Officials and private-sector economists argue about whether or when JNR should be "privatised", and perhaps split into smaller units on a geographical or functional basis.

Any reorganisation would have as a condition at the outset a formal writing-off of most if not all of the corporation's debt.

S. Arabian delays hurt contractors

LONDON — An important Saudi-U.S. contractor recently went bankrupt and one of the kingdom's most distinguished merchant families has called in the New York investment bank, Morgan Stanley, to help it reorganise at least \$400 million of debt incurred by its contracting subsidiary.

In both cases the cause of the problems has been the same — huge delays in payment by Saudi ministries and other government agencies, which are embarrassed by the fall in the kingdom's oil revenues. Delaying payments in this way is a time-honoured response of Middle East oil states to financial shortages.

The government's policy is causing great concern among contracting companies in all major industrial countries. Over one third of all the overseas business won by British contractors for example is in the Middle East.

Saudi Arabia is by far the biggest market in the region — despite falling oil prices the kingdom is still budgeted to spend \$75 billion in the financial year ending April 1985. Many thousands of companies — large and small — are affected by any change in Saudi payment policy.

The Carlson Al Saudia Company, a partnership of the Carlson Group of the United States and several prominent Saudi investors collapsed because it was not paid for work on a housing project at King Saud University in Riyadh. It is not yet known what bank debts it has or what guarantees may be called, but it is public knowledge in the kingdom that it has on site 2,000 Asian workers, whom it is unable to repatriate, and owes \$4.5 million to a travel company.

The Shobokshi group, based in Jeddah, operates on an altogether bigger scale than Carlson. The family partnership, Ali and Fahd Shobokshi, has unlimited liability, like almost all the top 30 or 40 Saudi merchant groups, and is a typically diversified concern. It runs shipping agencies, factories producing building materials and furniture, the trading house that imports Pony cars and trucks manufactured by Hyundai of Korea, and well-known advertising and publishing companies.

The Shobokshi group, based in Jeddah, operates on an altogether bigger scale than Carlson. The family partnership, Ali and Fahd Shobokshi, has unlimited liability, like almost all the top 30 or 40 Saudi merchant groups, and is a typically diversified concern. It runs shipping agencies, factories producing building materials and furniture, the trading house that imports Pony cars and trucks manufactured by Hyundai of Korea, and well-known advertising and publishing companies.

It is almost inconceivable that Saudi government payments to the Shobokshis would be delayed for long enough to force the family to go bankrupt.

The Shobokshis are members of an Hijazi family, from the west of the kingdom, who have cultivated links with the royal house of Saud from the time of the conquest of the Hijaz in 1925.

They have survived and prospered partly because they have enjoyed the goodwill of the royal family.

For the royal family to desert the Shobokshis would be a national scandal. "They are not like Adnan Khashoggi," an American banker recently remarked, "they are real members of the establishment."

Carlson and the Shobokshis are not the only contracting businesses to have been affected by late government payments. Earlier this summer the partnership of Blount of Alabama and Bouygues of France, which has the major contract for Riyadh University, was owed \$400 million.

It is believed that the companies were paid only after they had enlisted the support of the U.S. ambassador.

In the spring, the Saudi National Chemical Industries, which despite its name was a contractor more than a manufacturer, went into voluntary liquidation with several loans, guarantees and performance bonds outstanding.

The company was owned mainly by the Jeddah merchant Mr. Mohammad Bedrawi and a royal family member.

In almost all cases the companies that have got into difficulties have been those that have had structural or technical problems as well as large government debts.

The Shobokshi family has real estate projects that are not yielding income or need further investment, and its contracting division recently found that it had to carry out blasting on the Riyadh-Dammam road project. This led to great expense and delay.

The Saudi government now claims that the contractors can blame their distress on their own inefficiencies, and that in the past, their profits have been excessive.

There appears to be little concern in Riyadh that the policy of delayed payments is seriously

damaging the Saudi contracting industry, indeed the government denies that it is delaying payments.

The root of the problem is that the Saudi government has simply mismanaged its cash flow.

While oil production in the last two years has run at only some 4 million barrels a day, about 40 per cent of the level of 1980-81, the government has found itself with too many big projects already under way and has continued to embark on too many new ones.

Ministries are also finding it hard to break the habit of over-luxurious building. The more opulent and expensive projects have been in the past, the happier the contractors and middlemen have been and the more the prestige of the ministries has been enhanced.

The delayed payments policy began early last year at a time when competition in the Saudi market was already far tougher than it had been at the beginning of the decade.

Big foreign company/Saudi partnerships, with large establishments in the kingdom, were prepared to bid for contracts on a break-even basis simply to keep themselves in work.

When progress payments have been delayed, these companies have been tempted to slow the pace of operations, which in some cases has led to contracts running behind schedule. Customers have then invoked penalty clauses.

When projects have been completed, the normal ploy of ministries and other agencies has been to look for every conceivable fault in the job in order to delay approval and payment.

Moreover, when companies have arrived at the point of bankruptcy, Saudi practices have militated against rescue operations.

One apparent indication of imminent bankruptcy in Saudi Arabia is the labour force not being paid. When this happens, the workers complain to the police. The police call on the offices of the managers, ask if management has the money to make payment, and, on discovering that there is no cash, put the managers in a debtors' prison.

Financial Times news feature.

Jordan attends talks on agricultural firm

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Mr. Hamdi Tabbaa left Bahrain Sunday to take part in a meeting by the constituent assembly of the Arab Agricultural Investment Company.

The meeting, due to begin later Sunday, will discuss the initial steps to be taken for offering the company shares for sale to the public in various Arab countries.

Sudanese geologists to attend NRA training programme

AMMAN (Petra) — A team of Sudanese geologists arrived in Amman Sunday to participate in a training course organised by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) within a programme of bilateral cooperation.

A spokesman for the NRA said that the team of three geologists attending the two-month course will hear lectures and take part in practical training on ways and techniques of prospecting for minerals and natural resources including geological and seismological surveys. The course also covers training in drilling oil wells opening trenches and other work for oil and mineral extraction.

The team will also acquaint itself with ways of reporting geological finds and will study Jordan's mineral resources.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Some differences are entering into your life which have an element of confusion connected with them, but go along with them in an intelligent manner.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Run hither and yon only if you have some worthwhile purpose to accomplish. Gain added data that can be most helpful to you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You understand now how a few changes made in practical affairs can bring you a greater abundance.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Find a better method of operating now and bring forth that sense of humor you possess. Later join with those who are cheerful. MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan how to change some condition in your living so that you are happier and more prosperous.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You must come to a decision about a friend today, so do so, even if you have to get the relationship on a different basis.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Find whatever it is you desire to make your outside duties more pleasant. Good day to see a powerful person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A talk with a new contact can reveal how to become more successful in the near future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study your many responsibilities and don't get nervous, and handle them with poise and accuracy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) First soothe an irritated associate before discussing some good plan you have in mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Begin the week properly by studying the work ahead of you very carefully and then handle it conscientiously.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't go off on any tangents now, and in the evening you can enjoy a couple of parties or whatever else you prefer.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You may feel nervous about some home situation but be poised, otherwise you make matters worse.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will quickly understand any condition and then be very quick in handling it precisely and intelligently, so give as fine an education as you can and there can be much success during this lifetime.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
© 1984, The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

PASSPORT LOST

Bangladesh International passport No. E-416355 in the name of Mohammad Al Taf Ali has been lost. Finder please inform Tel. No. 29326 or

P.O. Box No. 301, Al-Taibah, Jordan.

PASSPORT LOST

Bangladesh International passport No. E-414250 in the name of Mohammad Alaeddin has been lost. Finder please inform Tel. No. 29326 or

P.O. Box No. 301, Al-Taibah, Jordan.

ATTRACTIVE APARTMENT FOR RENT

Attractive ground floor apartment in a three apartment building. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, salon, large living and dining hall, veranda, spacious kitchen, central heating, telephone, wooded garden, separate entrance. Select, quiet neighbourhood, near Third Circle, Jabal Amman.

Please contact telephone 41641.

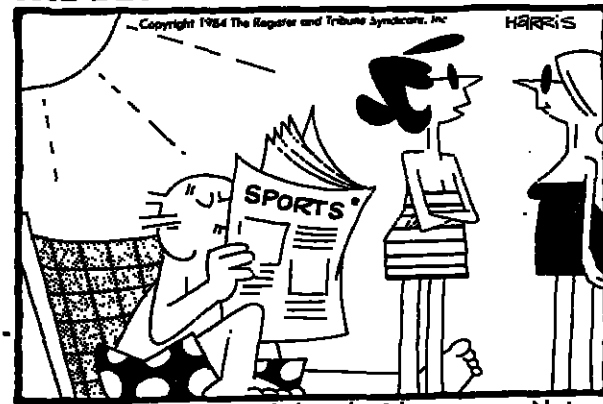
DELUXE FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

Consists of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, two bathrooms and modern kitchen with television, telephone, and video.

Location: Jabal Amman, between First and Second Circles

Call: 24730 between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Stanley doesn't ogle beach girls anymore. Not since he sunburned his eyeballs."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

THOOP

BASUQ

NAEVLE

MUGNIP

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: "O O O O" FOR "O O O O"

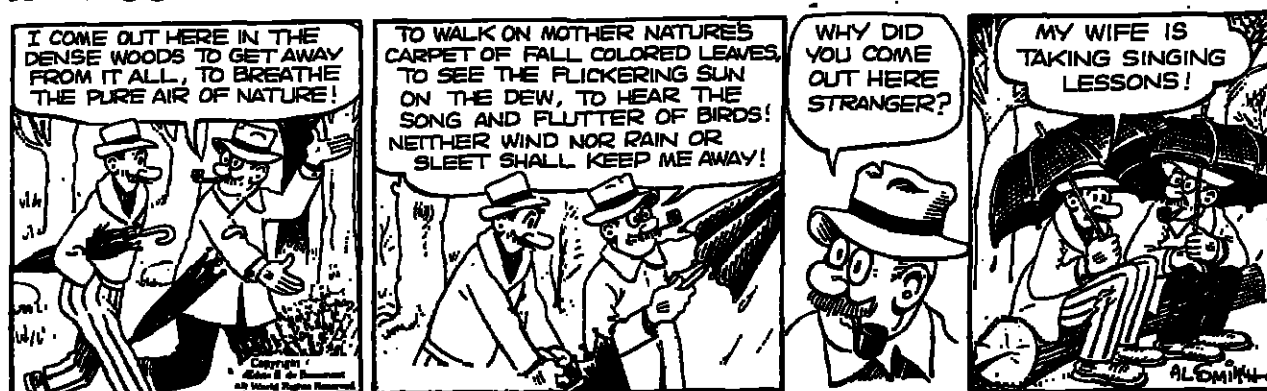
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RAPID CRAWL ICEBOX LARYNX
Answer: What he got when he read the story about those body snatchers—CARRIED AWAY

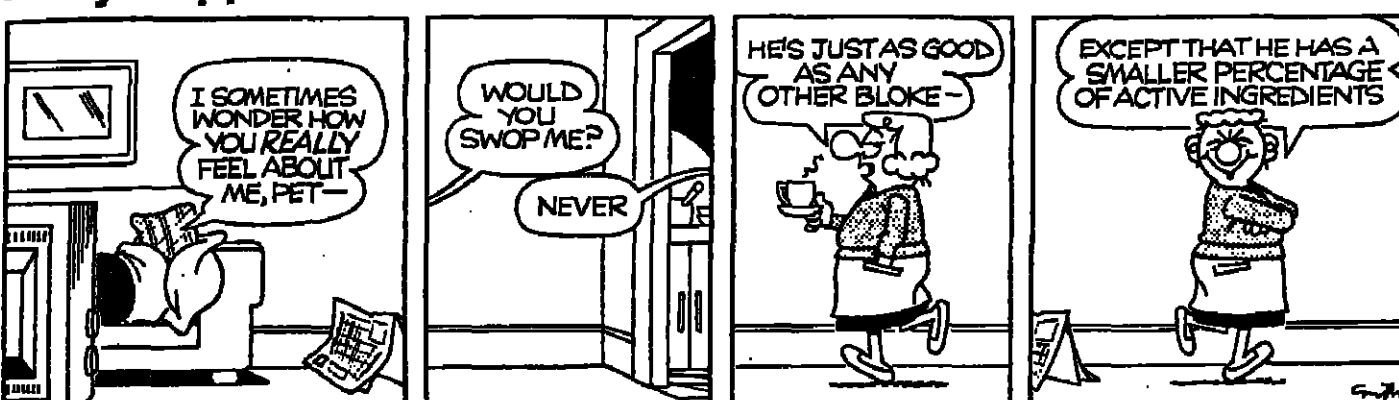
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword By Susan Mindell

ACROSS

1 Gate rudely

6 of... the valley

10 Widow of a knight

14 Law and —

15 Approach

18 Verve

17 Remains on a promise

19 Tough spot

20 Homely abbr.

21 Invent

22 Gluts

23 Collar button

24 Encourage

26 Aurore

28 Having keen vision

33 Journals

35 Harvest

36 Eggs

37 Artisan lady

38 Wax inquisitive

40 — out (made do)

41 Long time period

42 Golf needs

43 Church officials

45 Very stubborn

46 Free from trouble

49 Requests

50 Susa's land

52 Portants

55 Cupid

56 Young fellow

58 Promenade

60 Put on the back burner

63 Otherwise

64 Wields off

65 Galway

66 Ghostly

68 Leading lady

67 Selling place

69 Great fear

DOWN

1 Plants seed

2 Oak or maple

3 Nab, mope

4 Legal point

5 Certain muscle

6 Secret

7 Broadway sign

8 Gr. letter

9 Leftover morsel

10 Disillusion

11 Disarmament

12 Horse's hair

13 Calls it a day

18 Actor Gosselt

22 Leak slowly

23 Winter vehicle

24 Author James

25 Cutting edge

26 Asian capital

27 Mimicking

28 Rebel

29 Connects

31 Each and —

32 Fethers

33 Chick's sound

34 Utter

35 Lipstick colors

40 Cheese

42 Hardy heroine

44 Discovered

46 Yearn for

47 Make crazy

52 Is in debt

53 Beer ingredient

54 Maxwell

55 Sawwood derivative

56 Traditional knowledge

57 Inter —

58 Legal paper

60 Jack of clubs

61 A Genshin

62 Pronoun

Romanov calls for dialogue with U.S. on basic problems

HELSINKI (R) — A top politburo member Sunday said the Soviet Union was ready to negotiate with the United States on the basic problems of our time after accusing Washington of wrecking arms talks between the two superpowers.

Grigory Romanov, 61, said the United States was bent on increasing tension and intensifying the arms race and blamed it for the failure of the negotiations on limiting strategic and medium-range nuclear missiles broken off in Geneva last year.

After referring to the NATO deployment of U.S. cruise and Pershing missiles in Western Europe which began at the end of 1983, Mr. Romanov said the Soviet Union had been forced to initiate counter-measures for the security of the Warsaw Pact.

"At the same time the Soviet Union affirms that it is still ready

to negotiate with the United States and conduct a dialogue on the basic problems of our time," Mr. Romanov said in a speech prepared for delivery in Helsinki Sunday.

Mr. Romanov said the purpose of such a dialogue should be to produce agreements "corresponding strictly to the principles of equality and common security and taking into account the interests of all countries."

Although Mr. Romanov did not spell out the areas for possible agreement with Washington, he said the Soviet Union considered it an extremely urgent task to pre-

vent the militarisation of outer space.

Mr. Romanov is said by NATO diplomats to head the party secretariat overseeing the Soviet defence industries as well as the Soviet Union's "administrative organs" — a reference to the security apparatus of the KGB.

He is one of the few politburo members to serve also in the party secretariat and was tipped as a possible successor to the late Soviet leader Yuri Andropov when he died last February.

A hardliner who established his reputation by his treatment of intellectuals during his tenure as Leninist Party boss, Mr. Romanov is now regarded by NATO diplomats as Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov's effective deputy.

Mr. Romanov was speaking

Sunday at ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of the armistice ending hostilities between the Soviet Union and Finland during World War II.

The celebrations, arranged by the Finnish-Soviet Friendship Society, were attended by President Mauno Koivisto.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union said it has started fitting strategic bombers and submarines with cruise missiles in order to restore a balance with similar U.S. weapons.

The Defence Ministry, in a brief announcement carried by the official TASS News Agency Saturday night, accused the United States of trying to achieve military superiority in such missiles.

The ministry said the U.S. was carrying out a massive deployment of long-range cruise mis-



ASTRONAUTS RETURN: George Space Centre. From left are Commander Robert Abbey, (second from left), space shuttle director of Crippen, Mr. Abbey, Paul Scully-Power, John Flight Operations, walks with Challenger crew McBride, Kathy Sullivan, Sally Ride, Marc Garneau and David Leestma (AP wirephoto)

Pakistan to buy 3 frigates from U.K.

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan is negotiating a \$300 million (\$375 million) contract with a British shipbuilder to buy three frigates as part of its naval modernisation programme, sources close to the talks said Sunday.

Islamabad has already signed a letter of intent with Vospers-Thornycroft for the type 21 frigates, two of which would be built in Southampton, England, and the third with the firm's help in Karachi, the sources told Reuters.

Grindlays Bank officials confirmed they were arranging a loan

for the deal, which the sources said should be completed by the end of this year.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said the new 3,000-tonne frigates would help to modernise Pakistan's ageing fleet, which has six U.S.-built destroyers dating back to 1945.

The small, fast ships, defensive in nature, were tailored for defending the port of Karachi and the Makran coast as well as oil shipping lanes from the Gulf, they said, but could not be considered a

threat to the far larger Indian Navy.

India's three fleets boast an aircraft carrier, a cruiser, eight submarines, two destroyers, 21 frigates and assorted smaller craft, according to the London-based International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS).

Pakistan has only seven submarines, eight destroyers and smaller patrol craft, the institute says. The sources said they did not know what type of missiles Pakistan wanted to deploy on the frigates.

Shultz, Clark to discuss mutual ties

OTTAWA (R) — Improving Canada-U.S. ties is a top priority for Ottawa's new Conservative government and a foreign minister's meeting Monday could help to put the relationship on an even keel, officials say.

The two countries share the world's biggest bilateral trading partnership and longest undefended border, but relations were often tense under former Canadian leader Pierre Trudeau.

Mr. Trudeau once said that having the U.S. as a neighbour was "like sleeping next to an elephant" and his economic nationalism irked American business.

Conservative leader Brian Mulroney won a landslide victory last month and among his election campaign promises was a pledge to build a special relationship with the United States.

Within a week of taking office he went to Washington to meet President Reagan and now U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is flying up to Toronto for two days of talks with new Canadian External Affairs Minister Joe Clark.

The Mulroney government has already moved to tone down the "Foreign Investment Review Agency, whose stringent rules angered U.S. industrialists and to re-jig

Canada's much-criticised national energy programme.

On the new bilateral rapprochement, one Canadian official said: "The signs are all laid out before you. They are being quite deliberately conveyed."

A U.S. official in Washington said however: "Obviously there is no illusion on either side of the border that they see things entirely the way we do."

One point on which the North American neighbours differ is acid rain. Ottawa says they should act immediately on airborne pollution while Washington wants more research done.

Salvadoran death squads object to peace talks, threaten to kill Duarte

SAN SALVADOR (R) — El Salvador's most prominent right-wing death squad has threatened to kill President Jose Napoleon Duarte for "committing high treason" by inviting left-wing guerrilla leaders to unprecedented peace talks.

The threat was issued less than 48 hours before Mr. Duarte was scheduled to meet guerrilla chiefs. It will be the first direct encounter in almost five years of civil war between the U.S.-backed government and rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

Dialogue with the Communists of the FMLN is a dangerous political manoeuvre, Duarte and all the political parties and organisations which support dialogue are committing high treason and are enemies of the fatherland. Therefore, they will be the target of our military action," the Secret Anti-Communist Army (ESA) said in a statement.

The ESA has claimed responsibility for a long string of bombings and assassinations in El

Salvador. Diplomats said its threat underlined the hatred and bitter divisions in the country where an estimated 50,000 people, mainly civilians, have been killed in the civil war.

Mr. Duarte made the surprise offer for talks in a speech to the United Nations on Monday and the rebels accepted the following day.

Mr. Duarte, who took over as president in June, invited the guerrillas to meet him in La Palma, a sleepy town near the Honduran border which has changed hands frequently since the civil war broke out late in 1979.

With only a day to go before the meeting, details had still not been released Sunday on arrangements for the participants and the FMLN had yet to name its representatives.

Opposition to the talks ranged from the death threat by the ESA to more muted criticism by the right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA), whose leader Roberto d'Aubuisson lost to Mr. Duarte in presidential elections

last May. ARENA has dismissed the talks as "a propaganda show" and said they were unlikely to produce progress towards ending the conflict.

While the scheduled La Palma meeting has raised hopes for an end to the bloodshed, neither Mr. Duarte nor the guerrillas showed any sign of willingness to change their positions, which led to the failure of earlier attempts to start negotiations.

Meanwhile El Salvador has urged states backing a peace plan for Central America to revise their draft to ensure democratic development in the region.

Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio suggested revisions in a letter to the Contadora peace-seeking group made public Saturday.

"Without an effective guarantee for regional democratic development, peace cannot be reached... it is of supreme importance to create a real mechanism of verification and control," he wrote.

Shuttle programme on time after Florida landing

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The space shuttle Challenger, carrying a record crew of five men and two women, made a perfect landing after an eight-day scientific voyage, keeping the U.S. space programme on its tight schedule.

The 100-ton winged space plane made a silent pinpoint landing at Kennedy space centre Saturday, only the second by a shuttle at its seaside landing site, after gliding over Canada and the eastern United States.

"We sure are happy Challenger was able to land here today," said Shuttle programme Chief Jesse Moore. "It was a picture perfect landing. We're on our way to holding to the flight schedule we have set for ourselves."

Challenger and its sister ship Discovery are due to make alternate monthly missions until May under an ambitious schedule. There have been only 13 shuttle flights in 40 months.

If Challenger had been diverted by bad weather to a landing in California, as has happened twice before, it could have delayed a secret mission scheduled for December by at least a week. Space agency and Pentagon officials are very anxious to get the mission off on time although they won't say why.

Mr. Moore said Challenger looked "in reasonably good shape" following its sixth orbital flight. A closer inspection would determine if any significant repairs were required before it flew again early in December.

The crew of five men and two women, the largest number ever to fly in one spacecraft, looked in excellent shape as they emerged from the white and black space plane onto a red carpet.

On the two previous occasions when the carpet had been rolled out for Mission Commander Robert Crippen he was diverted to Edwards Air Force Base in California by Florida's weather.

On both occasions mission control told Crippen the "good news" was there was cold beer waiting and the "bad news" was that it was in Florida. On Saturday they told him: "We figured you would be going to Edwards, so that's where the beer is."

"I don't believe it. I don't believe it," replied Crippen, completing his fourth shuttle flight and third as commander.

While Challenger's 12:27 p.m. local time (1627 GMT) launch and landing were flawless, the first "scientific" shuttle flight mission in almost a year was marred by early technical problems.

"We did have some dis-

appointments," Shelby Tilford, a top space agency scientist, told a post-landing press conference. "However, all in all I think the mission was successful."

The main objective of the flight was to study the earth's surface with a variety of instruments, including sophisticated radars, extra large cameras and the human eye.

Problems curtailed some research work and forced especially Crippen and pilot Jon McBride to work extra hard. The flight set a record for the number of changes which had to be made in the pre-mission flight plan — 102.

The worst problem was with a dish antenna, the shuttle's main link with ground controllers, whose automatic pointing system malfunctioned and forced the astronauts to disconnect a cable to stop it from swinging around wildly.

Crippen and McBride had to manoeuvre the entire orbiter to point the antenna at a high-flying satellite which relays data and voice transmissions to earth.

The antenna problem delayed the use of a radar imaging device taking extremely detailed views of the earth's surface, more than halving the number of "pictures" it could take.

The flight marked the first space "walk" by an American woman, Kathryn Sullivan became the second woman to venture outside an orbiting spacecraft after Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya.

Another highlight of the flight was the successful testing of equipment to refuel satellites in space. During more than three hours working in the open cargo hold Ms. Sullivan and David Leestma tested hardware and techniques future shuttle crews will use to replenish rocket fuel in orbiting satellites, extending their useful lives indefinitely.

Mr. Moore called the equipment "an extremely important tool for the future."

Challenger's flight also marked the first time two natives of other nations flew in an American space mission.

Marc Garneau, the first Canadian to fly in space, conducted a series of 10 experiments that dealt largely with how the human body reacts to weightlessness in space.

Oceanographer Paul Scully-Power, a native of Australia who is now a naturalised U.S. citizen, travelled aboard Challenger to study the oceans.

Challenger also carried the first crew that included two women, Sullivan and Sally Ride, who last summer became the first American woman in space.

Police say IRA plans to kill Thatcher

LONDON (R) — British Police believe Irish urban guerrillas plan an assassination campaign against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her senior ministers after narrowly failing to blow up the cabinet at a seaside hotel.

In a vast dragnet hunting the Republican bombers, police at Liverpool Airport in north west England seized a man boarding a plane for Dublin. Early Sunday he was still being held in the southern town of Brighton, site of the attempt on the cabinet, after more than 24 hours' interrogation.

But a police source in Brighton told Reuters: "I don't think we've got our bomber. I don't think he will be charged."

Guerrillas of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), outlawed in both Britain and the Irish Republic, came close to wiping out the cabinet early on Friday when a bomb shattered the Grand Hotel in Brighton where the ministers were staying for the annual Conservative Party conference.

The bomb killed four people and injured 32.

Now even a rocket attack on 10 Downing Street, Mrs. Thatcher's

official London residence, is "quite on the cards," said Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist chief, Commander Bill Hicklesby.

Security plans are being tightened to protect government leaders and Queen Elizabeth, now on an unofficial visit to the United States, at the state opening of parliament next month, police sources said.

Danny Morrison, spokesman of the IRA's legal political wing Sinn Fein, was quoted as saying in an interview in Sunday's Observer newspaper that the IRA was now likely to attack "prestige targets."

This would be a shift in the IRA's struggle to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

In 12 years of bombing on the British mainland, the IRA has concentrated on shopping centres, army barracks and bars, only occasionally singling out public figures.

But Mr. Hicklesby told a news conference Saturday that now the IRA was out to get government chiefs, adding: "Mrs. Thatcher will have to be even more closely protected than ever before."

A member of parliament was

among Friday's fatalities, MP and Government Chief Whip John Wakeham, himself seriously hurt, was told Saturday his wife was killed.

Trade and Industry Minister Norman Tebbit was still recovering after being dragged from the rubble. Doctors said his wife Margaret was paralysed from the neck down by her injuries and did not know if this was permanent.

Sinn Fein's Morrison told the Observer the bomb was meant to kill the entire cabinet and lead to a British withdrawal from Northern Ireland. He denied prior knowledge of the plot.

"There would have been a rethink within British political circles, and it would probably have led to a British withdrawal in a much shorter period," he said. He added: "It is no good Mrs. Thatcher saying 'we will not be moved.' As far as the IRA are concerned, they can move her."

Police said Saturday that the bomb, which sent all seven storeys of part of the hotel thundering into the basement, may have been planted up to four weeks before it exploded.

Zimbabwe opposition appeals for unity

HARARE (R) — Opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, in political eclipse for the past two years, has launched a strong indictment of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's government and appealed for unity to tackle Zimbabwe's problems.

Addressing 6,000 delegates to a national congress of his ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union) Party, Mr. Nkomo accused the ruling ZANU-PF (Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front) Party of economic mismanagement, ruthlessness and betrayal in a "mindless pursuit of power."

Charging that the country had been led from one tragic crisis to another since it became Zimbabwe in 1980, he added: "In less than five years, the promise of independence has turned into a reality of suspicion, terror and failure."

The unusually sharp speech and the strong turnout for the four-day convention were seen by diplomats and political commentators here as part of a move by Mr. Nkomo and ZAPU to show they are still a powerful political force which the government cannot ignore as it presses ahead with plans to establish a one-party state after elections due early next year.

ZAPU and ZANU-PF formed an alliance to fight white rule in the Rhodesia but split before the 1980 independence elections, won by ZANU-PF with 57 seats to ZAPU's 20.

The 67-year-old Nkomo accused the government of slaughtering its own people by sending troops into Matabeleland province, home of the minority Ndebele tribe and his power base, in drives against armed rebels over the past two years.

"Their hands are stained with the blood of our people," he declared to loud applause. Church and aid workers in the area have said the army committed widespread atrocities against civilians during the anti-rebel operations.

The veteran nationalist appealed to Zimbabweans to put aside "division, hatred and fear" and fight for unity.

Prince Philip encourages Japan to honour wildlife treaty

TOKYO (AP) — Britain's Prince Philip Sunday encouraged Japan to meet the requirements of the Washington convention on wildlife, whose cosigners have accused this nation of failing to honor the International Wildlife Protection Treaty.

"They (Japan) signed the convention," Prince Philip said at a news conference, "and it's their responsibility to meet its requirements."

Asia-Pacific cosigners of the convention met in Malaysia on Friday and passed a resolution accusing Japan, the world's major importer of several varieties of wildlife, of excluding 14 species from import controls to protect local industries. Japan ratified the convention in 1980.

The prince — the Duke of Edinburgh and husband to Queen Elizabeth II — arrived in Japan on Saturday for a six-day visit to promote wildlife conservation here.

The president of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), he is to meet with Japanese conservationists, visit bird sanctuaries in the Tokyo area and travel to the southern island of Amami-Oshima, the habitat of several rare and endangered species, according to Japan WWF officials.

Prince Philip said the WWF, whose past projects have included saving pandas in China, tigers in India and polar bears in the Antarctic, is carrying out a campaign to conserve the plant kingdom during this visit.

While it is not too late to prevent a disaster, a worldwide effort is needed to conserve the plants of the world, which are threatened by pollution, human encroachment and overexploitation, the prince said.

The Japanese, who have a traditional talent for flower and garden arrangements, have a particular love for living plants, the duke said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
© 1984 Tribune Company Syndicate, Inc.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K J 6
♥ K 10 3
♦ Q 10 9 8 4 2
♣ 10

WEST ♠ A 7 4 2
♥ 9 8
♦ Void
♣ AK Q J 8 5 4 2 7

EAST ♠ A 7 4 2
♥ J 6 5 2
♦ J 6 5 3
♣ AK Q J 8 5 4 2 7

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 0 Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

1975 was the 25th anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl matches — the world team championship of bridge. To commemorate the occasion, the event was staged on the tranquil island of Bermuda, where the late Norman Bach organized the first championship.

The tournament was anything but tranquil. The calm of international bridge was shattered by cheating accusations against one of Italy's pairs. Then a shaken

COLUMN

Hawke injured in cricket match

CANBERRA (R) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke was rushed to hospital after being hit in the face by a cricket ball while playing against a press team in Canberra Sunday. Mr. Hawke attempted to hit a delivery from Melbourne Herald Correspondent Garry O'Neill over the mid-wicket boundary. But he deflected the ball onto his face, smashing his glasses, and fell to the ground clutching his head. He was taken to hospital for eye checks but was later allowed to leave. The accident left him badly grazed under an eye.

Actor Roddy McDowall injured in car accident

LOS ANGELES (R) — British actor Roddy McDowall, a child star who went on to make more than 40 films in Britain and Hollywood, was injured in a car accident Saturday night, a hospital spokesman said. McDowall, 56, suffered cuts and bruises and was undergoing tests at Cedars Sinai Hospital to discover if he received further injuries. The spokesman said, McDowall's films included How Green Was My Valley, the Poseidon Adventure, Cleopatra and Planet Of The Apes.

Weather chief replaced after deadly tornadoes

MOSCOW (R) — A new director has been named to the Soviet Meteorological Service after it failed to warn people of tornadoes which swept Russia in June, reportedly killing hundreds, the government daily Izvestia said Saturday. It named the new director as Alexander Vasiyev, 47, formerly the deputy head, but did not name his predecessor. Devastating tornadoes struck Central Russia in June, ripping up houses and hurling vehicles several metres.

Gastro-enteritis claims 198 lives

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Gastro-enteritis has claimed 198 lives in villages of southern Rajasthan district bordering India, the Nepalese National News Agency Rastriya Samachar Samiti (RSS) reported here Saturday. The disease, which is caused by drinking non-hygienic water, spread out among many villages following last month's heavy monsoon rains. Mithubawa was the most affected village with 40 deaths, it said.

Palace reviled by Queen Mary

LONDON (AP) — Buckingham Palace might never have become Queen Elizabeth's official residence if her grandmother had gotten her way, says a book to be published Monday. Queen Mary, consort of King George V, the thought of Buckingham Palace as "a hotbed of homosexuality," writes Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd, an authority on royal and aristocratic matters in "Burke's Royal Palaces of Europe."

"She was a woman of extraordinarily strong views on the subject of the family and the name 'Buckingham' horrified her because it recalled King James I's infatuation with George Villiers, the first Duke of Buckingham," at the beginning of the 17th century, he wrote.

Arabic fascinates Japanese

TOKYO (Agencies) — The Japanese are newcomers to the Arab World, their main interests are trade and oil, but learning Arabic has caught the fancy of many. When Japanese children start reading and develop some liking to stories, they come across the word "Alabu-Jin" (Arabs) and consequently "Alabian Naito" (Arabian nights). One Thousand And One Nights is available for adults and in simplified form for the Japanese children. The same is serialised in children newspapers, printed three times a week by major newspaper companies. The same fascinating Arab stories were produced into popular cartoon series shown by thousands of television stations across the nation, dubbed in children's language. Gradually, the child is taught Arabic figures, "Alabu Gama" in addition to learning about camels, desert and Arab cities.